



LANGUAGE ARTS

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FOR FAMILIES

YOU ARE your child's first teacher. Learn how to support the goals of Oklahoma's academic standards and why they are important for your child. Please be in regular communication with your child's teachers and ask how you can support language arts learning at home. When schools and families work together as partners, it helps your child achieve academic excellence!

SECOND GRADE

What to expect:

In second grade, children begin to ask bigger and deeper questions as their learning continues to grow. Second-graders are increasingly independent listeners, speakers, readers and writers. They read more challenging books and write longer stories. At this grade level, children read a variety of texts, including newspapers, magazine articles, stories and technology-based reading materials. They are able to focus their writing around a central topic and include details.

This information is a snapshot of learning in second-grade ELA. For a complete set of ELA academic standards, click [here](https://sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards) or visit sde.ok.gov/oklahoma-academic-standards.

By the end of the school year, your child will:

- Become an increasingly independent reader.
- Identify the main parts of a story, including details about the characters, setting, beginning, middle and end.
- Read a book and describe the main idea and details about the people, places or things in it.
- Explain how and why something happens in a story your child reads independently or hears read aloud.
- Write about a topic, including sentences about that topic.

What to do at home:

- Listen to your child read aloud.
- Help your child learn new words by sounding them out, looking at the sentences around them and thinking about what makes sense.
- Discuss why the author may have written a book and what happened in the story.
- Talk with your child about the information he or she learned from a book about real people, places or things.
- Learn and use new words. Challenge yourself to use these words in conversations with your child.
- Write stories or observations about the world around your child in a notebook.



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Fostering Curiosity

Children are naturally curious and motivated to learn about things that interest them. Since curiosity contributes to success in the classroom, it is important to encourage it at home. Play is a wonderful way to nurture curiosity in young children, so be sure to allow plenty of playtime. Encourage your child to ask questions, discover answers and explore his or her world.

Cultivate your child's curiosity with guiding questions like these:

- What do you notice or wonder about in your community?
- What new words or new things have you discovered?
- How can you solve the problems you see?

Your child will have plenty of questions. It's okay if you don't have the answer every time. The best response is always, "Let's find out together."

Fostering Communication

Increase vocabulary, thinking skills and curiosity by using new words and having conversations that include questions that make your child think. Communicating with others gives children a chance to see and understand that there can be more than one idea on a given subject. Accepting these different ideas helps children learn how to get along with others. This acceptance fosters positive relationships with peers and strong self-image.

Cultivate your child's communication skills with questions like these:

- If you switched places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach the class?
- What was the best thing that happened today? What was the worst?
- Did you learn something that challenged you today or was there something you didn't understand?

Fostering Comprehension

As children continue to strengthen their reading skills, they benefit from reading independently and with adults. Exposing children to a variety of print materials such as books, magazines, etc., allows them to explore new words and ideas. Use the following questions to help your child better understand what he or she is reading.

BEFORE READING

- What do you think this book is about?
- What do you think will happen?
- What kind of book is this?

DURING READING

- What do you think will happen next?
- Where and when does the story take place?
- What do you notice about the characters?

AFTER READING

- Why do you think the author wrote this book?
- What happened in the beginning, middle and end?
- What was your favorite part of the book?

Join the conversation!
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